

## County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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> Board of Supervisors GLORIA MOLINA First District

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To:

August 11, 2008

Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, Chair

Supervisor Gloria Molina Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky Supervisor Don Knabe

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From:

William T Fujioka

Chief Executive Officer

## SAN PEDRO/WILMINGTON HOMELESS COVERAGE

On April 22, 2008, your Board instructed the Chief Executive Office (CEO) to report back on how to ensure that the San Pedro/Wilmington areas of the County are adequately covered relative to services for the homeless and whether this can be achieved either through subcontracts or some other mechanism. In order to respond to your Board, we worked with the Community Development Commission (CDC), Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), and homeless services providers in the area to gain a better understanding of the issue.

According to LAHSA, the total homeless population in the San Pedro/Wilmington areas is 816; San Pedro and Wilmington areas consist of 366 and 450 homeless individuals, respectively. Further, research reveals that the homeless services continuum in the area does not meet the current need. At present, there are no emergency shelters for adult men and single women or any centralized access point for the population to connect with available services. This is also the case in other regions of the County.

As a potential step to address the gaps in the region, your Board requested that the CDC investigate the possibility of expanding existing contracts awarded under the \$32 million City Community Programs (CCP) - Request for Proposals (RFP) through subcontracts to address the homeless service needs in the region. The CCP - RFP was released to address some of the housing and homeless services gaps throughout the County. Only one provider from the San Pedro/Wilmington region submitted a proposal which was not funded based on a low score.

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The CDC has concluded that mandated subcontracting is not a viable option. The CCP funded projects were scored and awarded funds based on the requirements set forth in the RFP. Some of the scoring criteria were based on the experience of the providers, the project's specific service plan, and equitable distribution of funding per Service Planning Area (SPA). Each Board office agreed to these criteria before the RFP was finalized and released. Any change in the awards and/or scope of service would breach the integrity of the RFP process.

As a way to address this and other homeless issues, short and long-term approaches have been created to address how homeless services and affordable housing can be better coordinated in the San Pedro/Wilmington areas and throughout the County. Since the San Pedro/Wilmington area is located within the City of Los Angeles, as a short term approach we will work with the local neighborhood councils (Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council and the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council), the City Council office of Janice Hahn, Los Angeles City Housing Departments and LAHSA to raise the awareness for future funding opportunities and also provide technical assistance to better prepare homeless service providers and affordable housing developers to respond to the needs of homeless people in the region.

Additionally, a long-term approach is being led by our office to create a County Homeless Services Integration Plan (Plan) to be completed and submitted to your Board in January 2009. The Plan will focus on institutionalizing the lessons learned from the Homeless Prevention Initiative and homeless efforts into the ongoing operations of the respective County departments, develop specific strategies for underserved populations and regions in the County, and enhance the County's institutional homeless services infrastructure. The development of specific strategies for underserved populations and regions in the County will take into account, not only SPAs, but also Cities and specific geographic areas, including the areas and populations that were not fully represented though funding from the CCP-RFP.

If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Garrison Smith at (213) 974-4673, or via e-mail at gsmith@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF:MS:KH GLS:LS:an

c: Community Development Commission